

Listing of Claims:

This listing of claims reflects all claim amendments and replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application (material to be inserted in amended claims is in **bold and underline**, and material to be deleted is in ~~strikeout~~).

Please cancel claim 7, without prejudice.

Please amend claims 1-6 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A ball end mill comprising:
a tool main body which rotates around a rotational axis thereof;
~~an approximately semi-circular~~ **a cutting blade section provided at the tip of a**
tip of the ~~tool main body which rotates around a rotational axis;~~
a cutting blade which is formed at a tip of the cutting blade section, and has a
substantially semi-circular shape; and
a rake face and a flank, which are provided on either side of the cutting blade [[;]]
wherein:
the cutting blade ~~intersects a tip end surface of the tool main body at a position~~
which deviates is disposed on a flat face parallel to the rotational axis; and
the flat face is shifted from the rotational axis by a predetermined distance
~~along a radial direction of the tool main body~~ **when the flat face is viewed along the**
rotational axis.

2. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The ball end mill as described in
according to Claim 1, wherein the predetermined distance being is the length within a
range of between 0.5 % and to 10 % of the outer diameter of the cutting blade.

3. (Currently Amended) [A] The ball end mill as described in according to
Claim 1, wherein:

~~blade faces are formed by the rake face and flank, which continue along either side of the cutting blade, the blade faces on each side having predetermined angles of inclination when viewed from a cross section perpendicularly intersecting the cutting blade; and~~

~~each of the predetermined angles is different as rake angles~~
a blade face having the rake face and the flank formed continuously with
each other is formed on each side of the cutting blade; and
rake angles of the rake faces on each side of the cutting blade are different to
each other.

4. (Currently Amended) [A] The ball end mill as described in according to
Claim 2, wherein:

~~blade faces are formed by the rake face and flank, which continue along either side of the cutting blade, the blade faces on each side having predetermined angles of inclination when viewed from a cross section perpendicularly intersecting the cutting blade; and~~

each of the predetermined angles is different as rake angles
a blade face having the rake face and the flank formed continuously with
each other is formed on each side of the cutting blade; and
rake angles of the rake faces on each side of the cutting blade are different to
each other.

5. (Currently Amended) [A] The ball end mill as described in according to
Claim 1, wherein a the rake angle of the rake face being is a negative angle.

6. (Currently Amended) The ball end mill as described in according to Claim
1, wherein the cutting blade being is slightly rounded by mirror polishing.

7. (Canceled)